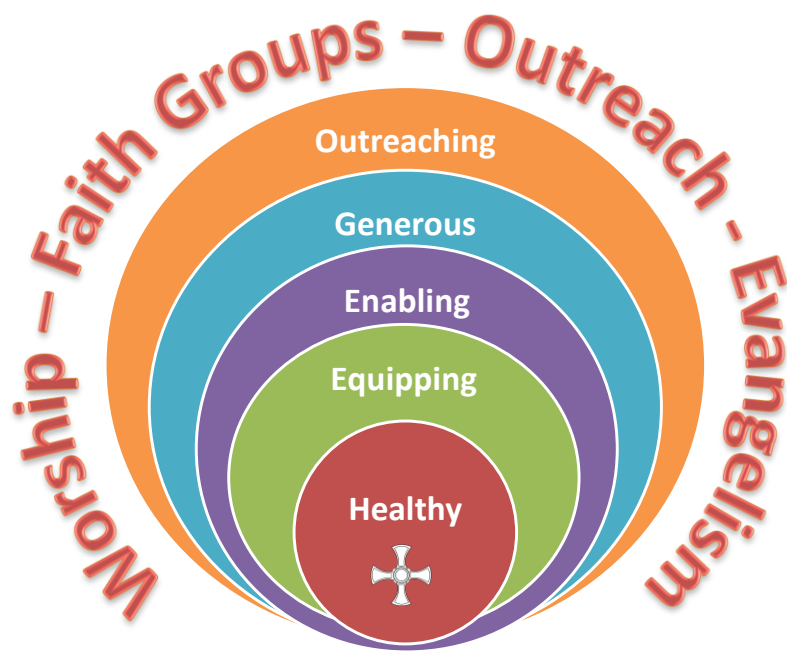


Diocese of Qu'Appelle

Mission Action Plan

2011 to 2013

Beginning the renovations...



**The Diocese of Qu'Appelle
Building on the foundation of Christ**

Rationale

What is our call to be church?

The great story of the scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation, testifies to and unveils for us God's meaning and purpose for our existence as creatures. The whole of the Scriptures speak to this singular reality – but three passages in particular are helpful as we seek to engage ourselves with God's mission in the world:

The Great Commandment reminds us that by God's design we are to "love the Lord your God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind, and with all our strength" and "love our neighbour as our self." (MK. 12:29-31; Mt. 22:34-40; Lk. 10:25-28)

The Great Commission reminds us that living out that love is, in part, bringing others into the knowledge and healing grace of the love that we have known through Jesus; *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations (In Mark "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation"), baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15; Lk. 24:47-48)

The Great Transformation. The third passage of scripture comes from Saint Paul, who says, *"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect".* (Rom. 12:1-2)

Diocesan Mission Action Plan

There are important things to keep in mind as we move forward with a Mission Action Plan for the diocese.

1. Tasks and goals must be grounded in the purpose and mission of God, made known to us in Jesus Christ. The question is not “what do we want” but “what does God want of us.”
2. We are to be attentive to the reality that God is already at work in our congregations, in our personal lives and in the world. We will need to be attentive to what God is doing so that we may join in with that work already begun.
3. As a diocese we will need to keep in mind that all the members of all of our congregations and parishes are members of the diocese and collectively carry out its ministry; some more focused locally in the congregation, some more focused on the broader ministries of committees, task forces or the Synod Office, some a combination of the two, and all carrying it out into the world beyond our various doors.
4. A primary role of those who work at the broader level of the diocese is to equip and enable the work of ministry for both congregations and individual members of the Church. The four pillars (Worship – Faith groups – Outreach - Evangelism) that we have adopted in the diocese, are key areas which will shape the kind of enabling and equipping that we will do together.
5. It is important to always keep in mind that we are not simply pursuing institutional survival, not bolstering membership to have enough givers and doers to keep things going; *“for those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the Gospel will save it.”* (Mk 8:35) Rather we are to be living stones, to be *“built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. A chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”* (1 Pt 2:4-5, 9)

Building on the foundation of Christ.

Beginning the renovations... 2011 - 2013

1. A HEALTHY CHURCH Ephesians 4:22-24

A call to wellness in the Christian Life. 'Healthy' is used to describe a church living and functioning within God's intention and purpose. Health is a result of balance. A healthy diocese has a balance of strategies, policies and structures to promote wellness in the body of Christ.

The Vision is that "every Anglican be rooted in scripture and prayer; regular in worship; outreaching in compassion and ready to share their faith".

As a diocese we will encourage, in every congregation:

- ✓ Small groups for Bible study, prayer, support & discipleship.
- ✓ Engagement in enriching and meaningful worship.
- ✓ Establish a diocesan and a parish outreach project for 2011-2013
- ✓ Encourage and resource an evangelistic sharing of the faith.

We will provide:

- ✓ Additional staffing resources for congregational development.
- ✓ Host a 2012 'Q' event to ignite & deepen the faith of all the baptized.
- ✓ Hold regional workshops for worship, teaching and support.
- ✓ Actively encourage Cursillo.
- ✓ Encourage use of church growth initiatives such as 'Natural Church Development' and the 'Back to Church Sunday' programme.
- ✓ Cultivate discipleship through Episcopal and Archdiaconal visits.
- ✓ Promote and teach mission & ministry at clergy gatherings.
- ✓ Promote wellness through H.R. policies, canons and regulations to canons.
- ✓ Help parishes develop their own Mission Action Plans.

Projected cost 2011 to 2013 \$25,000

2. AN EQUIPPING CHURCH Ephesians 4:7-16

Equipping leaders for mission & ministry.

As a diocese we will:

Begin the process to establishing 'The Qu'Appelle School for Mission and Ministry'.

We will budget for:

- ✓ Software for distance/regional learning.
- ✓ Set up Christian Education libraries in three regions.
- ✓ Appoint an administrator to look after student information and log progress, develop curriculum and timetables.

Projected cost 2011 to 2013 \$5,000

3. AN ENABLING CHURCH 1 Corinthians 12:1-8

A call to develop missional administrative support structure and the personnel to aid the mission and ministry of the Diocese.

ST CUTHBERT'S HOUSE is the administrative centre for the diocese. Their tasks are:

- (i) resource parishes for God's mission in their context.
- (ii) care for parish leaders and,
- (iii) promote and support the primary work of the Bishop;

As a diocese we will:

- ✓ Consider changes to diocesan structures, committees and regional boundaries to further the work of mission in the diocese.
- ✓ Work with our ecumenical friends as a diocese and encourage same in parishes to strengthen a Christian presence across the diocese.
- ✓ Appoint a diocesan Mission Action Plan steering group.
- ✓ Develop and introduce Human Resource policies to aid the wellness of all engaged in full /part time leadership in the church.
- ✓ Review stipends and housing allowances in our missional context.
- ✓ Create a reserve to cover possible shortfall to Fair Share requests 2011-2013.

Projected cost 2011 to 2013 \$50,000

4. A GENEROUS CHURCH 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

A call to engage in developing financial resources and plans for the good stewardship of those resources to fulfill God's mission and ministry.

Particular challenges in years 2011-2013 will be:

Level of fair share income 2012 and beyond, and replacements for Director of Finance and the Chair of the Finance Committee.

As a diocese we will:

- ✓ Provide extra staffing resources to help provide stewardship advice, to aid giving programs & provide parish education on the discipleship of giving.
- ✓ Diocesan Finance Committee to develop a ten year sustainable plan to undergird the Diocesan Mission Action Plan. A diocesan funding campaign may be needed in the future. Finance Committee to report to Synod 2013 with regards these.

Projected cost 2011 to 2013 \$25,000

5. AN OUTREACHING, ECUMENICAL & MISSIONAL CHURCH Luke 10:1-9

A call to be ready at all times to SHARE THE FAITH in word & deed.

As a diocese we will:

- ✓ Appoint a 'church plant' priest to begin feasibility phase.
- ✓ Invite National Fresh Expressions officer to lead visioning days.
- ✓ Provide bursary for people to attend provincial church planting conferences.
- ✓ Appoint a diocesan Evangelist to have special input to this group.

Remaining funds from the sale of Holy Trinity, Regina to be drawn upon for fresh expressions of church and church plant initiatives.

As a diocese we will also:

- ✓ Encourage ecumenical partnerships in parishes.
- ✓ Further companion links in missional ways.
- ✓ Appoint a companion links steering group.
- ✓ Consider outreach project in our companion dioceses.
- ✓ Encourage an outreach project in every parish.
- ✓ Appoint a refugee sponsorship group for a diocesan outreach project.

Projected cost 2011 to 2013 \$5,000

Building on the foundation of Christ. Beginning the renovations... 2011 - 2013

Question: Where will the money come from to fund the initiatives in this Diocesan M.A.P?

Answer: At the Diocesan Synod in 2009, \$250,000 was released from the Harding Jackson Trust Fund. None of this money has been spent, so out of this amount, a total of \$110,000 will be allocated to this first stage in the Diocesan Mission Action Plan. At the Diocesan Synod in 2013, the second stage of the Mission Action Plan will be shared with the diocese, consideration will then be given to use more of this money for missional purposes.

What is needed to bring this plan to reality?

- ✓ A diocesan call to prayer (Psalm 127)
- ✓ Share the vision across the diocese (communication team)
- ✓ Focus on 4 pillars in congregational development
- ✓ Staffing resources for parishes - part time funding for Congregational Development: Stewardship: Evangelism: Church Planting (in the future a Children and youth advisor)
- ✓ Diocesan School to disciple and teach future leaders
- ✓ Improve finances & develop 10 year financial plan
- ✓ Adapt diocesan structures /canons for mission
- ✓ Wellness approach to HR policy
- ✓ Strengthen companion & ecumenical links
- ✓ Diocesan Outreach project

'A Church Without Walls'

(from the Church of Scotland has been influential in the development of this mission action plan.)

From church focus to Christ focus

following Jesus to see what church forms round him.

From settled church to church as a movement

going where people are rather than waiting for people to come.

From a culture of quilt to a culture of grace

freeing people to love and be loved while not counting the cost.

From running congregations to building communities

working towards a relational reformation.

From isolation to interdependence

encouraging churches to work together.

From individualism to teamwork

seeing teamwork as essential to all ministry.

From top down church to upside down church

putting the local church at the centre of the agenda.

From centralized resources to development resources

releasing funds to encourage local vision.

From faith as security to faith as risk

looking for new courage to break out of old routines.

DIOCESAN PRAYER

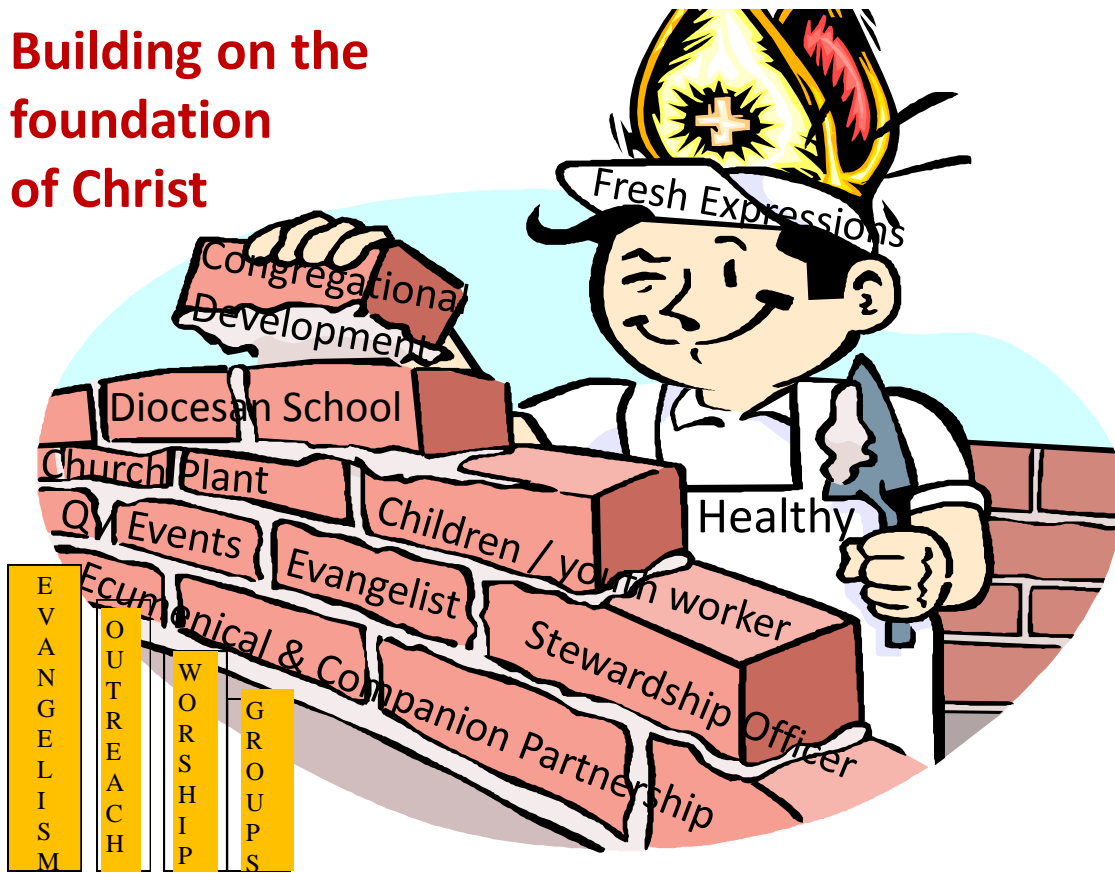
O Holy Spirit of God, Spirit of truth, of light, of love, by whom Jesus is made known and through whom the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts.

Come, set our hearts on fire with a new love for Christ, that we may be alive to the opportunities of these times and bear our witness with urgency and zeal.

Save us from complacency and from fear of new ways: cleanse, inspire and renew, in us, such gifts and graces as will glorify you.

Equip us for mission and ministry and stir our wills to pray and work until your will is done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Building on the foundation of Christ



BISHOP'S CHARGE

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
support the weak; help the afflicted;
honour all people; love and serve God,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Be courageous.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you now and always.